

*Statewide Unemployment Rate Stays above 11 percent in June*

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement following today's announcement from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics that Florida's unemployment rate for June was 11.4 percent, significantly higher than the national average of 9.5 percent:

"Where are the jobs? In the last year, Florida has lost nearly 100,000 jobs, and more than one million Floridians are still out of work.

"Floridians are hurting under the government-focused policies of Obama and Pelosi. Our small business owners are tired of being hit over the head with new mandates and tax hikes. Our families are tired of seeing President Obama and Congress put growing the federal government above growing the economy and creating real, private sector jobs.

"We can't tax, borrow and bail our way out of this recession. Small businesses, not the federal government, are the real engine of economic growth and job creation. We need to pass permanent tax relief and give Florida's small businesses the favorable, stable environment they need to grow and create lasting jobs."

Rooney's Economic Freedom Act, [H.R. 5029](#) , would:

- Permanently eliminate the capital gains tax.
- Permanently provide immediate small business expensing.
- Permanently eliminate the death tax.
- Cut the payroll tax in half for 2010 for employers and employees.
- Reduce the corporate income tax rate to 12.5 percent (the same rate as Ireland's).
- Repeal spending in the "stimulus" bill, except for unemployment benefits and tax cuts.
- Terminate the TARP program.

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